

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The Dullest Day of the Year—Stocks Lower and Feverish.

GOLD STEADY AT 112 1-2.

Money on Call Three Per Cent—Government and Railway Bonds Firm—Some Investment Shares Lower.

WALL STREET.

TUESDAY, MAY 16. P. M.

The record of a twelve month past has not shown a duller five hours' business than has to-day. The usual monotonous click of the telegraph machine was as infrequent to the ear as is the hum of insects on a hot summer noon, and the vocations of operators proved a sinecure. At the one o'clock call the board room was literally abandoned, and the chairman in his solitude unconsciously quoting Tom Moore, may have soliloquized:—

"I like tea one
She takes some
Some banquet half deserted."

Nevertheless brokers have appetites whether "school keeps or not," and they had gone off ostensibly to luncheon, which now-a-days mostly means a pull at "bold John Barleycorn" and an electro-mechanical repast of crackers and cheese. A variation of one-half cent was about all the interest that the day's market afforded, and though a fractional drop at the close of business created some activity to transactions, it was only noticeable as in comparison with the extreme state of lethargy which had preceded it. The result, however, was to close up prices at the lowest points of the session, and was attributable to no stronger reason than a vague report that the Commodore was not so well.

The stock of the New Jersey Central Railroad may be taken as almost the sole exception to the above remarks, as it suffered a decline from 94 1/2 to 92 1/2 and was offered at the latter figure at the close. The feeling with regard to it is very bearish, and the few offerings of stock on seller 60 option at from 2 to 2 1/2 per cent below the regular price is producing a demoralizing effect. Western Union pursued the even tenor of its way, as though the wicked Atlantic and Pacific had censured from troubling and the approaching dividends were assured. Nevertheless there was more interest taken in the process of pneumatic tube laying outside than there was in the price of shares indoors, and many timid stockholder looked doubtfully at the trench, which seemed likely to swallow up pipes and profits together.

The aggregate of the day's dealings would scarcely present a sum in simple addition difficult enough to bother a boy in a primary school, and as for the other rates of subtraction and division brokers have studied them so thoroughly for the last year or two that they have got them by heart. There is no greater request for money than heretofore, 3 per cent being the rate on call and 4 per cent for many months. This cheapness is far from reassuring as to a speedy improvement in business, and rather betokens a dull and inactive summer.

OPENING, HIGHEST AND LOWEST PRICES.

The following table shows the opening, highest and lowest prices of the day:—

	Bid	Asked
City six, old.....	104	—
City six, new.....	108 1/2	108 1/2
Consolidated Companies of New Jersey.....	108	—
Pennsylvania Railroad.....	52 1/2	52 1/2
Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.....	44	44
Lehigh Valley Railroad.....	58	58
Central Pacific Railroad preferred.....	40 1/2	41
Philadelph. & Balt. Railroad.....	18	18
Northern Central Railroad.....	24	24
Lehigh Navigation.....	45 1/2	46
Lehigh Navigation Gold Loan.....	103 1/2	103 1/2

ending to-day were \$2,750,350, against \$4,106,451 for the corresponding week in 1875, and \$6,604,654 in 1874. The total exports of produce from the port since January 1, this year, were \$9,423,883, against \$8,251,516 for the corresponding period in 1875, and \$10,304,858 in 1874.

INVESTMENT SHARES.

In investment shares the following were the ruling prices—Morris and Essex, 103 1/2; New Jersey Railroad, 135 1/2; New York and New Haven, 155; Delaware and Lackawanna, 103 a 107 1/2; New Jersey Central, 94 1/2 a 96 1/2; Rock Island, 105; Cleveland and Pittsburgh guaranteed, 93 1/2; Producers and Petroleum, 112 1/2 a 113; Wells-Fargo Express 87 1/2 a 87 1/2; American, 62 1/2; Adams, 111; Delaware and Hudson, 110 1/2 a 111.

THE FOREIGN MARKET.

The London advices report the rate of discount in the open market for three months' bills at 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 per cent, or 3/4 a per cent below the Bank rate. Consols were steady and United States bonds firm. Bullion to the amount of £55,000 went into the Bank of England on balance-to-day. The following are the half-past four o'clock P. M. quotations:—Consols for money, 96 1/2 a 96 1/2; for account, 96 1/2; 1865's sold at 104 1/2; 1867's, 109 1/2; ten forty bonds, 107 1/2 a 107 1/2; new bonds, 106 1/2; Erie, 134; do, preferred, 21 a 23. The Financier says practically there is no market for money on the Stock Exchange. In Paris Rentes are 106 1/2 to 107 1/2.

RAILROAD BOXES.

Railroad bonds were firm on a small business. St. Paul consolidated sinking funds were in demand at 85. Northwest consolidated gold coupons declined to 93 1/2, and Union Pacific sinking funds to 91. Harlem coupon firsts brought 118 1/2; do, registered, 116; New York Central sixes of 1887, 105 1/2; Western Pacific, 99 1/2; Denver and Hudson coupons seven of 1894, 108. In the afternoon the largest transactions were in Union Pacific firsts and Erie fourths, the former advancing to 106 1/2 and the latter to 100. Central Pacific rose from 107 1/2 to 108 1/2. Union Pacific land grants sold at 99 1/2. Fort Wayne seconds at 111, Northwest consolidated at 102 1/2. Galena and Chicago firsts at 106. St. Paul consolidated 7 1/2 to 8 1/2, and New Jersey Central convertible at 103.

The following were the closing quotations for Pacific Railroad bonds—Union firsts, 105 1/2 to 105 1/2; do, land grants, 90 1/2 to 92 1/2; do, sinking funds, 91 to 91 1/2; Central, 94 1/2 to 104 1/2.

BANK SHARES.

Bank shares were rather more active and sold as follows:—American Exchange, 100 1/2; Commerce, 115; Fourth National, 99; Republic, 78; Central National, 101 1/2.

STATE BONDS.

In State bonds the dealings were unusually active in Tennessee, which rose to 43 1/2 for old and to 42 for new.

PHILADELPHIA STOCKS.

The following are the Philadelphia stock quotations at three o'clock this day:—

	Bid	Asked
City six, old.....	104	—
City six, new.....	108 1/2	108 1/2
Consolidated Companies of New Jersey.....	108	—
Pennsylvania Railroad.....	52 1/2	52 1/2
Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.....	44	44
Lehigh Valley Railroad.....	58	58
Central Pacific Railroad preferred.....	40 1/2	41
Philadelph. & Balt. Railroad.....	18	18
Northern Central Railroad.....	24	24
Lehigh Navigation.....	45 1/2	46
Lehigh Navigation Gold Loan.....	103 1/2	103 1/2

CALIFORNIA MINING STOCKS.

The following are the closing official prices of mining stocks to-day:—

	Bid	Asked
Consolidated Virginia.....	74	74
California.....	79 1/2	79 1/2
Segregated Belcher.....	19	19
Alpha.....	58	58
Confidence.....	21 1/2	21 1/2
Nierra Nevada.....	54 1/2	54 1/2
Mexican.....	20 1/2	20 1/2
Echonex.....	20 1/2	20 1/2
Overman.....	69	69
Gould & Curry.....	17 1/2	17 1/2
Justice.....	27 1/2	27 1/2
Caledonia.....	8 1/2	8 1/2
Hale & Norcross.....	62 1/2	62 1/2

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1876.

BEFORE CALL—10 A. M.

100 St. Mich Con. 43 1/2

100 Wells Fargo 43 1/2

100 U. S. 20, 25, 30, 35

100 U. S. 20,